

JPW



Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 02860.0791

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Tohru KIMURA *et al.*)
) Group Art Unit: 2655
Application No.: 10/826,524)
) Examiner: Not Assigned
Filed: April 19, 2004)
)
For: OPTICAL PICKUP DEVICE,)
OPTICAL INFORMATION)
RECORDING AND)
REPRODUCING APPARATUS,)
EXPANDER LENS, COUPLING)
LENS AND CHROMATIC)
ABERRATION CORRECTING)
OPTICAL ELEMENT)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08. Copies of the listed foreign patent documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Enclosed is an English-language search report issued by the Australian Patent Office in connection with this application citing these documents and setting forth the relevance thereof.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: July 13, 2006

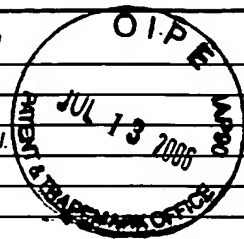
By: 

David W. Hill
Reg. No. 28,220

Enclosures
DWH/FPD/sem

ERNEST F. CHAPMAN
Reg. No. 25,961

IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	10/826,524
				Filing Date	June 4, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Tohru KIMURA <i>et al.</i>
				Art Unit	2655
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	02860.0791



U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-2004/0190423 A1	09-30-2004	Yagi <i>et al.</i>	
		US-2003/0202451 A1	10-30-2003	Kimura <i>et al.</i>	
		US-6,304,540 B1	10-16-2001	Yoo <i>et al.</i>	
		US-6,272,096 B2	08-07-2001	Yoo <i>et al.</i>	
		US-			
		US-			

Note: Copies of the U.S. Patent Documents are not Required in IDS filed after October 21, 2004

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP 2003-279850	02-10-2003	T. Kimura		Abstract and Claims
		WO 02/31823 A1	04-18-2002	P. Jutte		
		WO 02/25646 A1	03-28-2002	P Jutte <i>et al.</i>		
		WO 03/025921 A1	03-27-2003	DeVries <i>et al.</i>		
		JP 2001-060336	03-06-2001	Shiono <i>et al.</i>		Yes

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.